

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

In complete response to the outstanding Official Action of October 2, 2003, on the above-identified application, reconsideration is respectfully requested. Claims 1-10, and 16-26 remain in this application. Claims 11-15 have been cancelled. Claims 25 and 26 have been added.

Claim 25 combines the elements of Claim 1 and the currently cancelled Claim 15, to better define the invention. Claim 26 combines the elements of Claims 1 and the currently cancelled Claims 11 and 14, to better define the invention.

Allowable Subject Matter:

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that Claims 1-10 are free of the prior art.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

Claims 11 – 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being obvious over Saito et al. '109. Claims 11-15 have been cancelled, which renders this rejection moot. Applicants respectfully maintain that Claims 16-26 of the present invention are neither anticipated by nor obvious over Saito et al. '109.

Saito et al. '109 refers to a porous, organic or inorganic adsorbent, having no ion exchange ability, which is chemically inert to an aqueous solution of hydrogen peroxide.

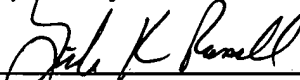
In contrast to Saito et al. '109, new independent Claim 26, requires a method for preconditioning an adsorbent resin. In further contrast to Saito et al. '109, new independent Claim 26, requires that this adsorbent resin "is effective to maintain an essentially constant temperature when contacted with a hydrogen peroxide solution for at least eleven hours." One of ordinary skill in the art would find that the present invention is neither taught nor suggested by Saito et al. '109.

CONCLUSION

In view of the current amendments, the present application now stands in condition for allowance. Early notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that a telephone call would expedite prosecution of this application, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda K. Russell

Registration No. 34,918

Date: December 2, 2003
Air Liquide
2700 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1800
Houston, Texas 77056
(713) 624-8956 Phone
(713) 624-8950 Fax